

## State of New Jersey

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## Joint venture of Office of the Medicaid Inspector General and Union County Prosecutor leads to guilty plea

Rosaline Fabi, of Sayreville, Middlesex County, pleaded guilty yesterday in Union County Superior Court to theft by deception which carries penalties of non-custodial probation and restitution.

On February 17, 2010, the Office of the Medicaid Inspector General received a referral from the Elizabeth Police Department regarding the arrest of Rosalina Fabi, 29, which occurred on the same day. On January 28, 2010, the Elizabeth Police were dispatched to Preferred Freezer Services, in Elizabeth, New Jersey when the Chief Financial Officer discovered after reviewing payroll records, that approximately \$20,000.00 had been stolen from the company. These records and other documentation showed that Preferred Freezer's payroll coordinator, Rosalina Fabi, overpaid herself \$20,000 in 2009. Upon investigation by an Elizabeth Police Detective, Ms. Fabi admitted to the theft of approximately \$20,000 from Preferred Freezer Services.

Additionally, Ms. Fabi revealed that she forged paychecks with a rate of pay differing from her actual salary in order to receive Medicaid benefits. Ms. Fabi admitted that she "cut and pasted" her name from one of her pay stubs and glued it on top of someone else's pay stub with a lower salary in an effort to apply for and subsequently obtain state assistance from the New Jersey FamilyCare Medicaid Program (NJ FamilyCare). As a result of her arrest, a redetermination of Medicaid eligibility was done, revealing that since January

2005 both Rosalina Fabi and her husband Abdul Gbondo, 30, were in fact not eligible for NJ FamilyCare based on their true income as reported to the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

The Office of the Medicaid Inspector General is seeking recovery of all Medicaid payments made on behalf of Ms. Fabi and Mr. Gbondo in the amount of \$33,078.79. Ms. Fabi and Mr. Gbondo are responsible for reimbursing the Office of the Medicaid Inspector General for the improper payments made on their behalf.

"This case highlights the success of local, county, and state cooperation in New Jersey's effort to combat Medicaid fraud and abuse," states Medicaid Inspector General Mark Anderson. "We hope this sends a message to others thinking of taking advantage of the program that all levels of government are working together to stop and penalize this type of conduct."

If anyone has information about fraud, waste or abuse in the Medicaid program, please contact the Office of the Medicaid Inspector General toll free at 1-888-937-2835 or visiting the Office's website at <a href="www.gov/njomig">www.gov/njomig</a>. All information received through the hotline or website may be submitted confidentially.